

Dr. Martin Luther

### THE FESTIVAL OF THE REFORMATION

OCTOBER 27, 1946

## FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH Maryland St. & Ellice Ave Winnipeg

Rev. A. B. Midland, Pastor (122 Borebank St. (Phone 404 329 Mr. Leslie Hall, Organist and Choirmaster

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#### ORDER OF SERVICE

Organ Prelude Processional Hymn #289 page The Service 183 Introit (Sung by Mr. Hall) 9 Gloria Patri, Kyrie, Gloria in Excelsis 184 Collect Epistle, Galatians 2:16-21 The Hallelujahs Anthem Gospel, John 8:31-36 12 Apostles' Creed Solo (Sung by Mrs. Midland) Hymn #195 Sermon Offertory and Offering 14 -General Prayer and Lord's Prayer Benediction Recessional Hymn #166 Organ Postlude after Silent Prayer

Visitors are most welcome to our Services. The guest register in the vestibule of the Church awaits their signatures.

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#### ANTHEM

#### PRAISE YE THE FATHER

GOUNOD

Praise ye the Father, His pow'r is everlasting, Give thanks for all His benefits. Sing forth your paises, Let ev'ry heart be joyful; praise ye the Father, Great Ruler, kind and merciful! Praise be to Him Who hath shown His mighty pow'r. Let ev'ry voice sound His praise with exulting strains of gladness! Great is the Lord, Let His Name be praised for ever; Come ye forth with your hearts attuned to sing, arise and praise ye the Father; Glory to the Father! To the great and mighty Ruler! Loudly let the chorus swell! Loudly let the tuneful anthem ring! Love and joy be now in ev'ry thankful heart, Oh, praise he the Lord!

SOLO

O REST IN THE LORD

MENDELSSOHN

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#### CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, Oct 27, LSA meets at Church 7:00 P.M.

Friday, Ladies Aid & W.M.S. at the Furney home, #21 Brunswick Apts 2:30 P.M. Choir Practice 8:00 P.M.

Saturday, Sunday School social at the Church 2:30 P.M.

Sunday, Nov. 3, Sunday School 10:00 A.M. DIVINE SERVICE 11:00 A.M.

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THE INTROIT today will be sung; the Congregation will join in singing the Gloria.

NEW MEMBERS will be received into the Congregation Dec. 1. Speak to the Pastor.

Sorrow came to one of our families last Friday when Maureen Schindel, child of Mr. & Mrs. B. Schindel died from scalding. Funeral service will be at Thompson's Chapel on Monday at 2 P.M.

# The Soul of Reform

The soul of an earnest young monk struggling desperately in his cell for a sense of peace with God, was the soil from which sprang the chief doctrine of the Reformation.

Martin Luther knew thoroughly the teachings of the church and how to carry out its rules and requirements faithfully. But no matter how hard he tried, Luther never could be sure that he had done enough to merit God's favor.

Driven to the Scriptures by a burning desire for knowledge of salvation, he reached these conclusions: God sent his son into the world to redeem sinful man. Christ's act of redemption restored man to favor with God. Belief in this—the central theme of the Gospel—is the requisite for salvation.

The youthful Augustinian friar's findings brought him "the peace of God which passeth all understanding." As a believing child of God, Luther knew he did not need to worry about earning God's favor. Christ had earned it for him.

Later, when he and his theologian friends thought over his experience, they described it in precise theological language. Their definition of the experience of a great Christian soul became known as the doctrine of justification by faith.

It was necessary that this doctrine be stated clearly for it had to be defended staunchly by the reformers. The Church at Rome rejected it as false teaching, and to this day it remains one of the fundamental differences between Lutherans and Roman Catholics. The Roman Church claims that many other things beside faith play a part in determining whether or not we are redeemed, while the Lutheran Church holds that it is faith alone through which salvation is assured.

Great emphasis was placed on this doctrine during the Reformation because it met such a vital need in the lives of the people. Up until that time so much stress had been placed on what people had to do in order to obtain salvation that they were confused. So long as a person had to earn merit himself or secure it from the church, he never could be sure God was satisfied with his achievements. Doubt plagued him continually because of his unworthiness.

As a result, multitudes of people were eager for a note of assurance in their religion. This they found in the truths of the Scripture that the reformers called "justification by faith."

Because it satisfies a permanent spiritual need of all people, the idea of justification by faith has remained a cornerstone in our church throughout the centuries. It makes the Reformation an everpresent force in the building of the Kingdom of God, and not just a monument in past history.